

REMARKS

Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the thoughtful and courteous treatment afforded Applicants' undersigned representative during the telephone interview conducted on June 24, 2003.

In the interview, independent Claims 1, 8 and 9 were discussed in light of the Office Action dated March 31, 2003 (Paper No. 26), and more particularly with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,446,476 (Kouzaki).

During the interview, it was agreed that the foregoing changes to Claims 1, 8 and 9 would overcome the § 102(b) rejection over Kouzaki. However, the Examiner indicated that these claim changes raise new issues that would require further examination and/or search, and therefore would not be entered. Accordingly, it was further agreed to present the discussed claim changes in a Preliminary Amendment together with a Request For Continued Examination (RCE). Such action is now being undertaken with this Preliminary Amendment and accompanying RCE.

U.S. Patent No. 5,313,291 (Appel), which was applied in the rejection of dependent Claim 6 in the March 31st Office Action, is not understood to remedy the deficiencies of Kouzaki. Specifically, Appel is not understood to disclose or even suggest the features of generating data indication a proportion of synthesis of stored conversion data for a light source having high color rendering properties and a light source having low color rendering properties, generation a conversion condition from the stored conversion data according to the data indicating the proportion of synthesis. Accordingly, the allowability of independent Claims 1,8 and 9 is not believed to be affected by Appel.

The other claims remaining in the application are dependent from the independent claims mentioned above and therefore are also believed to be allowable over the references applied in the March 31st Office Action. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

With respect to the other matters raised in the March 31st Office Action, Applicants have amended the formula on page 19 of the specification, as set forth above, to attend to the error noted in the Office Action. In addition, new formal drawings incorporating the approved drawing changes requested in the Request for Approval Of Drawing Changes dated February 3, 2003, together with a Letter Transmitting Formal Drawings, accompany this Preliminary Amendment.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California, office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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